

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 66 – SB 97

March 16, 2009

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (004772): Eliminates the automatic dismissal of petitions for divorce or legal separation if all required information is not included within the petition. Requires all information, including the social security number of the parties, be contained in the court's records prior to the entry of the final decree of divorce unless the court is satisfied that the information could not be obtained through due diligence exercised by the complainant or petitioner or after the court has granted a reasonable time to amend the complaint.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Decrease State Revenue – Not Significant
Decrease State Expenditures – Not Significant

Decrease Local Revenue – Not Significant
Decrease Local Expenditures – Not Significant

Other Fiscal Impact – The Department of Human Services could be in jeopardy of losing federal funds in the amount of \$45,655,600 in FY09-10 if the provisions of the bill result in non-compliance with federal law. The amount of federal funds lost will gradually increase each year the state continues to be non-compliant.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Decrease State Revenue – Not Significant
Decrease State Expenditures – Not Significant

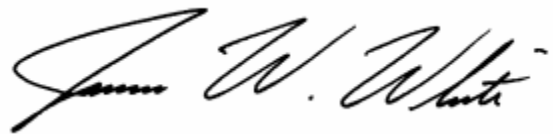
Decrease Local Revenue – Not Significant
Decrease Local Expenditures – Not Significant

Assumptions applied to amendment:

- According to the Administrative Office of the Courts, cases dismissed under the current provision are most commonly re-filed upon the discovery of any missing information that resulted in dismissal. It is assumed that any decrease in caseloads will not result in a significant decrease in expenditures or revenues of the state and local courts.
- According to the Department of Human Services, the bill as amended is in compliance with federal law 42 USC § 666(a)(13)(B) requirements for the Title IV-D Child Support program.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" written in a smaller, more compact script than the last name "White".

James W. White, Executive Director

/kml